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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REP

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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY East Germany

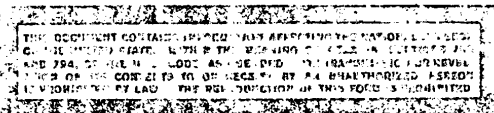
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50X1-HUM

SUBJECT Derutra Central Office in East Berlin

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50X1-HUM



THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. On 23 June 1953, the stores of Derutra on Mauernstrasse, East Berlin, were dissolved and, on 24 June 1953, the stored products, mainly electrical engineering and installation materials, were shipped to the USSR on 90 Derutra and Soviet army trucks. [redacted] an order demanding that these 90 trucks carry back food from the USSR for the Soviet Army in East Germany and that this shipment be escorted by 20 trucks each with 15 Soviet soldiers, allegedly because of the insecurity in Poland, rather than the uprisings in East Germany. Derutra 50X1-HUM shipments for the USSR which crossed the Frankfurt/Oder border station had allegedly been confiscated upon arrival in Poland.
2. Upon the outbreak of the rebellion in East Germany, deliveries from East German plants scheduled for the Soviets were also hurried to the USSR or East German ports, especially Rostock, to be loaded on Soviet freighters. Trucks of the Derutra branches and the Soviet Army were used for this purpose. Shipments by rail were rare. No new orders for reparation deliveries were received by the Derutra central office after 17 June 1953.
3. Following the riots, Gossow (fnu), technical manager of the Derutra central office, had no longer any administrative power and all orders were given by General Veronichev (fnu). Since 20 June 1953, two Soviet officers in civilian clothing used to sit in Gossow's room. Employees and visitors of the Derutra central office were rigorously checked. Their identity cards were copied and body searches were made. On 24 June 1953, all files were withdrawn by Gossow from employees of the Derutra central office and copy books with about 60 pages were issued to replace the withdrawn account books. These copy books had to be stored in a special room where they were guarded by SED and Soviet military police officials after office hours.

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